



CROP PROGRESS AND CONDITION

Alabama Agriculture Counts!!



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Issue 1

Crop Season Begins

Data tables reflect the week ending: **April 1, 2012**

CROP PROGRESS

Crop	This Week	Last Week	2011	5-Yr Avg.
	Percent			
Corn Planted	40	N/A	23	30
Cotton Planted	3	N/A	0	0
Winter Wheat Headed	35	N/A	0	0
N/A =Not Available				

CROP/LIVESTOCK CONDITION

Crop	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Exc.
	Percent				
Corn	0	0	17	83	0
Winter Wheat	0	2	22	74	2
Livestock	0	2	18	63	17
Pasture & Range	0	1	26	58	15

TOP SOIL MOISTURE

	Days Suitable	Very Short	Short	Adequate	Surplus
		Percent			
District 10	5.3	0	15	85	0
District 20	5.9	0	0	100	0
District 30	5.9	0	13	70	17
District 40	5.3	2	26	67	5
District 50	6.1	0	4	95	1
District 60	6.0	15	47	38	0
State: Current Week	5.8	2	15	80	3
State: Previous Week	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

EXTENSION/FSA COMMENTS:

General: The week's average mean temperatures ranged from 64.7 F in Crossville, to 72.8 F in Mobile; total precipitation ranged from 0.01 inches in Bankhead, to 1.60 inches in Geneva. Jeffrey Smith, FSA CED for Coosa, Elmore, and Tallapoosa Counties, said 0.80 inches of rain was received at the service center last week. James D. Jones Jr., ACES CEC, said rain is needed for the dry soils in Henry

County. Henry Dorough, ACES REA, said most farm activities this past week involved fertilizing and spraying forage crops in Blount, Calhoun, Jefferson, Marshall, and St. Clair counties. Jack Tatum, ACES REA for Clay, Cleburn, Coosa, Lee, Randolph, Shelby, Talladega, and Tallapoosa, said it has been an ideal spring for producers. Dawn Hoagland, FSA CED for Blount, Jefferson, and Walker Counties, said strawberry u-pick operations are opening and in full swing. Alfred K. Jackson, Tuskegee Cooperative Extension Program County Agent, said it was an unusually warm winter with several small vegetable gardens already prepared for planting.

Cotton/Peanut/Soybeans: Tim Malone, FSA CED in Marion and Winston Counties, said corn planting began approximately two weeks earlier than normal thanks to the unseasonably warm weather. Jones Jr. said corn planting is proceeding quickly, and Henry County may have its first cotton planted this coming week.

Small Grains: Malone said the winter wheat crop is in good condition and is heading out two weeks ahead of schedule. Smith said the winter wheat crop is looking very good in Coosa, Elmore, and Tallapoosa Counties.

Pasture/Hay/Livestock: Malone said fescue grass in pastures is off to a good start, and livestock producers are no longer feeding hay. Jackson said pastures show signs that grass should be plentiful this spring. Jackson said cattle prices are holding steady, and producers are taking advantage of the prices by culling undesirable cattle and upgrading their existing herds. Brenda Glover, ACES REA for Green, Hale, Marengo, Perry, and Sumter Counties, said pastures look good with some haylage already being put up.

**Southeast Regional Climate Center
Values for Monday, March 26, 2012, to
Sunday, April 1, 2012
(7 days)**

<http://www.sercc.com/perspectivesmap>

Name	City	State	Average Mean Temperature Value (°F)	Total Precipitation Value (in.)
Anniston Metro Ap	Anniston	AL	66.5	1.01
Bankhead Lock & Dam	Bankhead	AL	69.3	0.10
Birmingham Area	Birmingham	AL	69.5	0.12
Brewton 3 Sse	Brewton	AL	71.0	1.20
Centreville 6 Sw	Centreville	AL	66.4	0.25
Sand Mt Substn	Crossville	AL	64.7	0.68
Enterprise 4 W	Enterprise	AL	69.4	1.51
Gainesville Lock	Gainesville	AL	65.4	0.29
Geneva #2	Geneva	AL	68.9	1.60
Huntsville Area	Huntsville	AL	67.9	0.14
Mobile Area	Mobile	AL	72.8	0.41
Montgomery	Montgomery	AL	70.5	0.88
Muscle Shoals Ap	Muscle Shoals	AL	68.0	0.61
Rock Mills	Rock Mills	AL	65.6	0.73
Scottsboro	Scottsboro	AL	66.1	0.43
Talladega	Talladega		65.0	0.33

U.S. Drought Monitor, March 27, 2012

National Weather Service

<http://www.drought.unl.edu/dm>

	Drought Conditions (Percent Area)					
	None	D0-D4	D1-D4	D2-D4	D3-D4	D4
Current	57.87	42.13	32.96	24.67	16.85	3.98
Last Week (03/20/2012 map)	54.03	45.97	33.05	24.84	17.11	3.98
3 Months Ago (12/27/2011 map)	39.32	60.68	49.64	27.97	14.47	0.00
Start of Calendar Year (12/27/2011 map)	39.32	60.68	49.64	27.97	14.47	0.00
Start of Water Year (09/27/2011 map)	52.55	47.45	39.68	29.11	14.38	0.00
One Year Ago (03/22/2011 map)	16.35	83.65	47.18	23.51	2.33	0.00

Intensity:

- D0 Abnormally Dry
- D1 Drought - Moderate
- D2 Drought - Severe
- D3 Drought - Extreme
- D4 Drought - Exceptional

